



APR 26 2004

The Honorable Kathleen Blanco  
Governor of Louisiana  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9004

Dear Governor Blanco:

It is a pleasure to respond positively to the State of Louisiana's request for a waiver of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I-B 20% transfer authority at Section 133(b)(4) and 20 CFR 667.140. The waiver increases your authority to transfer funds between the Adult and the Dislocated Worker programs from 20% to up to 40%. As you know, this request is consistent with one of the improvements that the Administration is seeking in the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act—the consolidation of the WIA Adult, WIA Dislocated Worker and Wagner-Peyser Act (Employment Service) funding streams.

This consolidation would provide states with maximum flexibility to meet unique workforce needs. In the meantime, we hope this waiver will assist your state in meeting its workforce needs and improving programmatic outcomes at the local level and statewide.

The following is the disposition of the state's waiver submission.

***Waiver: Waive the Title I-B 20% transfer authority at WIA Section 133(b)(4) and 20 CFR 667.140.***

The state is requesting a waiver (copy enclosed) to increase the limitation on transferring funds between the Adult and the Dislocated Worker programs at WIA Section 133(b)(4) from 20% to up to 40%. The state indicates that the increase in transfer authority will give greater flexibility to local workforce investment boards so that funds can be used where they are most needed. The state believes that this increased flexibility will allow the boards to better respond to changes in their local labor markets and will help ensure that the WIA funds allocated to each local area are being used in a way that will maximize customer service.

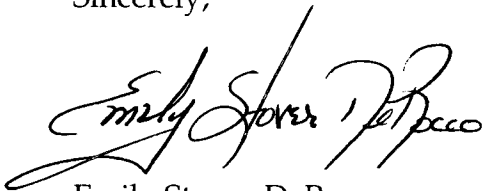
The waiver is written in the format identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c) and appears to meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). Accordingly, the state is granted a waiver of the application of the 20% funds transfer limitation at WIA Section 133(b)(4), consistent with the

waiver plan submission. This waiver will permit the state to approve local area requests to transfer amounts of up to 40% of local area allocations between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams, as requested. The duration of the approved waiver is through June 30, 2005.

The granted waiver is incorporated by reference into the state's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and also constitutes a modification of Louisiana's approved five-year strategic plan. A copy of each letter should be filed with the state's WIA Grant Agreement and the state's approved five-year strategic plan, as appropriate.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce investment outcomes. We are prepared to entertain other state and local-level waiver requests that you may wish to submit, consistent with the provisions of the WIA statute and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Emily Stover DeRocco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Emily" being the most prominent.

Emily Stover DeRocco

Enclosure